

Dear BCC Brothers and Sisters,

The BCC Stewardship Ministry Team is pleased to announce the availability of a more convenient way for you to give to the Lord's work. You may sign-up for Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT's) by submitting the attached form to our Finance Manager, Kristin Nading.

Over the last few years, our culture has moved from personal checks – to paperless transactions: we use debit cards for everything from groceries to furniture to iTunes and we pay many monthly bills via electronic fund transfers at banks or credit unions. About 40% of Quad-City households make online payments for mortgage, utilities, and other bills. We have heard about the inconvenience of ATM withdrawals on the way to church, and then using offering envelopes (to document their giving for tax purposes). This new EFT option may be the answer while encouraging many of us to grow in one key area of stewardship: first fruits giving.

“First-fruits giving” is an act of faith. (See Deuteronomy 26:1-4.) It reflects a heart-conviction of responding gratefully to God before meeting our other obligations. It means giving first to God, from the top of our blessings, not the leftovers. We choose to give first to God according to a personal giving plan, before the “world” speaks for every cent.

If you don't already do this as a family, there may never be a better time to start. When we determine to trust God to provide for us financially – we have no recourse but to do it His way. In fact, in His Word, He dares us to test Him in this! Malachi 3:10 says, “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test Me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”

When we gather for worship, the offering is considered a spiritual event, part of our congregational praise. You may use this time to give to special needs as God prompts you – or you may participate by merely adding the Connections Section of the bulletin to the basket as it is passed – knowing that you already have given your “first fruits” to God through your EFT.

Soon, you will also be able to use debit cards (no credit cards) to register on-line through our website for special events and to give to special needs. **Remember: these are only options for your convenience.**

Questions or concerns? Contact Ray McMillin, Connections Ministry Coordinator
(563) 355-0124, ray@bettendorfchristian.org

or

Kristin Nading, Finance Manager
(563) 355-0124, kristin@BettendorfChristian.org

May God continue to bless Bettendorf Christian Church as we strive together to better serve HIM!

Your BCC Stewardship Ministry Team